



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Deval L. Patrick, Governor ♦ Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor ♦ Tina Brooks, Undersecretary

October 11, 2007

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Dear Housing Authority:

I am writing to announce the launch of the *Accelerated Emergency Response Pilot* by our Public Housing Bureau of Development and Construction. This initiative is an important step in our overall efforts to both respond to local priorities and delegate decision-making to local housing authorities as much as possible. This program will allow you to administer your own emergency capital projects costing less than \$25,000.

The *Accelerated Emergency Response Pilot* is described on the attached Program Description Sheet. It is a voluntary program, so you can choose to participate or not. The program envisions the housing authority taking on a larger role than has traditionally occurred. Of course, DHCD will be happy to provide technical assistance, at your request, to make this transition a smooth one. We are excited about how this program will accelerate your ability to address emergencies by removing a layer of administration and oversight.

We have designed this program to allow you to respond to your specific local conditions in an expeditious manner. Please call your project manager if you have any questions and/or to get started with your participation in the program. If you have any policy or broader program suggestions, please feel free to call Ray Frieden, 617-573-1190 or Amy Schectman, 617-573-1211.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina Brooks".

Tina Brooks
Undersecretary